

# What College Students Should Know



Are you familiar with the outstanding figures in the history of the human race? How large is your knowledge of the outstanding facts of present-day civilization? Here's an opportunity to test yourself on these questions. Following is a questionnaire presented to one hundred students representing four college years in a large American university. About one-third of the number were third or fourth year students. There were seven foreigners in the group. The test was given toward the end of the college year, with the work of the second semester nearing completion.

"It might well have been assumed that the college study in English, history, mathematics, the languages and the sciences, should have refreshed the memory in regard to many of the leading points in the questionnaire," says the originator of the test writing in a special educational number of the New Republic. The article disclosed neither the identity of the writer nor, for reasons which can only be guessed at, the name of the university.

"There were sixty questions in the list originally given," he continues. "The highest grade, 88 per cent, was made by a student of Slavic descent, twenty-two years old. The second rank, 87 per cent, was made by a more mature Russian. The highest grade made by a native American was 89 per cent; the lowest 10 per cent.

"It may be asked what is the purpose of such a questionnaire. Do the answers indicate with any degree of certainty the trend of thought of the modern college student, or justify our drawing any definite conclusions? First, the results seem to emphasize the current belief that a

majority of young people go to college today for a diploma. The memorizing of facts seems important insofar as it brings about this end. They are as quickly forgotten, and leave no lasting impression. In the modern college life there is no time for meditation; no time for assimilation or digestion. Students hurry to their classes and hurry away; the car facilitates their departure. An hour of jazz, a movie, or a whirl to the next town assists in eradicating any impression which may have been received in the classroom.

How many of these questions can you answer? Any good dictionary ought to provide most of the answers against which you can check your replies.

## THE QUESTIONNAIRE PART I

Tell why the following men and women were great. Give their nationality and, if possible, give the century in which they lived. Mention at least whether they are living or dead:

Name	Per Cent Correct Answers	Per Cent Incorrect Answers	No Answer
1. Plato	5	80	15
2. Pericles	16	84	0
3. Horace Mann	23	17	60
4. Pestalozzi	15	35	0
5. Napoleon	100	0	0
6. Edward Jenner	2	14	84
7. Kepler	15	35	50
8. Kant	10	17	73
9. Michelangelo	95	5	0
10. Pasteur	26	74	0
11. Cleopatra	71	29	0
12. Alfred Nobel	3	18	80
13. Isaac Newton	64	36	0
14. Lee de Forest	1	4	95
15. Marconi	33	63	0
16. Goethe	80	45	25
17. Bernard Shaw	38	59	3
18. Copernicus	9	21	70
19. Darwin	72	26	2
20. Faraday	15	5	80
21. H. G. Wells	73	20	8
22. Martin Luther	56	36	8
23. Steinmetz	23	78	0
24. Bolon	4	44	52
25. Anatole France	37	18	50

## Examples of Incorrect Answers

1. Plato ..... A Greek mathematician, a philosopher in the 18th century (one student only mentioned having read Plato's Republic).

2. Pericles ..... To the majority Pericles was a Greek philosopher, a law maker, or an American scientist. An English writer (15 answers): "A Greek," (2).

3. Horace Mann ..... Two named him as an "Italian painter," living in the 14th or 15th century. Several named him as an American writer. He was usually called a "great fighter," a "great general," and "the French Emperor who died for France."

4. Pestalozzi ..... Named a number of times as a great writer, an American scientist, a doctor.

5. Napoleon ..... A painter, a musician, a writer, and the "inventor of the law of gravitation."

6. Edward Jenner ..... A "German commander," a "religious man," a general.

7. Kepler ..... A Greek sculptor (1); one student ventured the information that he "died a few years ago."

8. Kant ..... "The one who pasteurized milk" (several); a chemist, a physician, a pastor in a church.

9. Michelangelo ..... A Roman; the Queen of Italy; the Queen of Sheba; the Queen of India; a princess; an Egyptian princess; Anthony's friend; sister of Julius Caesar; a famous vamp; a bad woman. Lived variously in the 15th, 16th, 17th, and following centuries. "To some he is still alive. He was 'the inventor of the Nobel prize.' He was also placed as an American orator, an American poet, and a famous American philosopher. A French painter."

10. Pasteur ..... 12 had heard the name but could not remember. To some he was an author; to another the one who made the first steamboat. He was also named as an American inventor.

11. Cleopatra ..... A French doctor; a novelist.

12. Alfred Nobel ..... An "ancient scientist," a French general; a Jewish king; the inventor of the airplane. One wrote that he must have invented the wireless but she was not sure whether he lived in the 16th or 17th century. Of the 62 giving incorrect answers, all believed him dead.

13. Isaac Newton ..... A German musician (many); a Greek philosopher.

14. Lee de Forest ..... 42 called him an American writer; 15 called him dead and one wrote "he has just died." One knows him as the author of "Candide."

15. Marconi ..... He was of four nationalities, Italian, Roman, Greek, Persian. He was a navigator, an astronomer, a writer, a philosopher, and lived before Christ.

16. Goethe ..... To many he was an American "noted for his theories." One student wrote that he was an "impious man who told us that we descended from monkeys." He was named frequently as a philosopher, a zoologist, and a botanist.

17. Bernard Shaw ..... An English author; an American statesman; the inventor of the steamboat.

18. Copernicus ..... An American historian (30).

19. Darwin ..... A churchman; a dead politician; a preacher; the founder of the English Church; a botanist (Luther Burbank).

20. Faraday ..... A German musician; a German philosopher; a composer; a rich German industrial man. All those who gave incorrect answers believed him still alive.

21. H. G. Wells ..... Many had heard the name but could not remember who he was. One answered "a Hebrew dancer" (probably had in mind Salome). A "religious man"; an artist; a cynic; an atheist.

## PART II

Name	Per Cent Correct Answers	Various Answers
29. Name several Russian writers	0	60 were unable to name any Russian writer. The only Russian writer named was Tolstoy (28 times). False answers were Nietzsche, Conrad, Balzac, Maupassant. 90 "did not know."
30. Who wrote the Inferno?	8	False answers were Bernard Shaw, Bossuet.
31. Who wrote Paradise Lost?	97	82 had never "had any French literature." Others thought that Dumas (Pere et Fils), Victor Hugo, Kipling, Montaigne, had contributed.
32. Who were the French writers who largely contributed to the French Revolution?	5	All others gave groups of various nationalities. One of the groupings given included Titian, Rembrandt, Corot, Angelo, Millet.
33. Name five Italian painters	4	81 did not know any. 5 named Lorado Taft; 4, Rodin; 1, Pascal; 1, Pericles; 1, Praxiteles.
34. Give the names of several famous sculptors	4	Most of the students had heard of T. C., but could not name a book. 1 gave him as an American novelist. 7 called him "still alive." 1 had heard him lecture a year ago "at the Woman's Club."
35. Name a book written by Thomas Carlyle	16	62 knew that he was a Spaniard. 1 called him the "Father of Don Quixote." 1 named him as the discoverer of America.
36. What can you tell about Cervantes?	18	18 had never heard of him. 1 answered "a sort of doughnut."
37. Who was Bismarck? Is he dead or living?	13	100 per cent named Lincoln; 99, Shakespeare; 84, Washington; 56, Napoleon; 32, Roosevelt; 15, Edison; 8, Bell; 3, Marconi; 22, Poch; 19, Pershing; 22, Franklin. Other answers were Coo, Columbus, Wilson, Caesar, Alexander, Jefferson, King Tut.
38. Name the five great men who you think contributed most to our civilization	4	48 gave Lincoln because he was so devoted to his country. Washington, because he saved America from England. Edison, not because he invented the electric light, but because he can "do without sleep."
39. Which great man do you admire most? Tell why.	16	Placed variously in France, in Paris, in Jerusalem. On Sheridan Road and Wilson Avenue, Chicago (a movie theatre); in Italy, in Athens, in Washington.
40. Locate accurately the following famous architectures: (a) The Parthenon	65	In Versailles, in Italy, in Eiffel (Germany). The majority placed it in Greece; some in Paris.
(b) The Pantheon	20	Florence, Italy, Versailles.
(c) The Eiffel Tower	50	Colorado, North Carolina, and in various other states. One (an American) had never heard of the Yosemite.
(d) The Alhambra	30	In Spain, in Persia, in Asia Minor. 65 "did not know."
(e) The Vatican	80	In Greece, in Constantinople; one young woman answered "Luxor is a cosmetic powder, cream, and rouge."
41. Locate the Yosemite	54	94 had not heard of this school. The others thought it must be a school for boys in England.
42. Locate Madagascar	33	25 gave the "American race." The remainder (14) gave "Anglo-Saxon." 75 thought it was New York. Others named Texas and Washington.
43. Locate the Luxor	27	The automobile, the caterpillar, radio, radium, insulin, and the "Marcelle Waves."
44. Have you ever heard of the Barbizon School? What can you say of it?	1	Most of the students did not know the meaning of the word.
45. Which human race is the most populous?	61	The majority named Pythagoras. Many "did not know."
46. What state has the largest population to the square mile?	1	99 did not know the amount. One thought "a million or so." All except 1 agreed that France should pay her debt. 1 thought (very generously) that America should cancel it.
47. What recent inventions do you consider the most useful to mankind?	1	
48. What is a mausoleum? Can you locate a famous marble mausoleum in India?	7	
49. Who applied the elements of Plane Geometry the first time?	30	
50. How much money does France owe America? Should she pay her debt?	87	

"A distorted sense of values prompted the reply that the marcelle wave is one of the most important inventions," the writer continued. "The girl who made this assertion explained that the marcelle wave is a great aid to a woman's beauty, and that without beauty a woman cannot retain her power over man. Another young woman associated Luxor only with a beautifying cream. "Napoleon thought nothing of sacrificing 2,000,000 lives to advance his own interests, yet the question concerning him brought a record of 100 per cent as against only two correct answers with regard to Jenner. In a group of 100 college students, the story of Jenner's noble devotion and self-sacrifice in one of the greatest

tragedies of modern civilization was entirely unknown to all but two. Temporal power, personal ambition, and a domineering intellect seem to make an appeal a hundred-fold more emphatic than that of the most devoted ministry.

"There are, of course, many students who have a keen insight into the value of their college years, and perhaps a realization of their responsibility. But it would seem that very many look upon the campus as a great playground with an annex reaching into the surrounding towns. To have a good time is the ambition of this group, and the 'good' may often be written with a question mark. Perhaps . . . we are caught in a post-war whirl, from which we shall presently

emerge to more normal standards." Incidentally, there are those who believe that the man who gave the test, and examined the replies, failed, when he wrote his conclusions, to take into account the possibility that many of the students took the questionnaire not in the serious spirit in which it was submitted to them, but rather with a certain degree of levity and with their tongues in their cheeks. Furthermore, it was probably a volunteer test, and students, knowing that their academic life or death would be unaffected by what they wrote, were denied the benefit of that psychological pressure which often serves to inspire them to their best effort in a regular examination.

## GETTING RID OF HOUSEHOLD PESTS

Most Insects Go Where There Is Prepared Food.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

A flea and a fly once met in a flea. Said the fly, "Let us fly." Said the flea, "Let us fly." So they flew through a flaw in the flea.

If not a flaw in the flea, a flaw in housekeeping accounts for a good many household insect pests. Most of them go where they can find their preferred food, and, if unmolested by remedial measures, soon breed in great numbers and become a serious problem. Many of the troublesome household insects feed on crumbs, scraps, and other exposed food. So keep your food supplies in tight metal or glass containers. Clean up promptly any food crumbs that may be scattered about. Don't leave any food uncovered. Keep your garbage pail closed, and have it emptied regularly. Rinse it out and line it with clean paper each time it is emptied.

Special precautions must be taken to get rid of breeding places for some kinds of insects. For instance, house flies breed in decaying vegetable and animal matter. So remove any decaying substances in or near the home. Mosquitoes breed in stagnant water, so cover the rain barrel, and allow no other stagnant water about. Windows and outside doors should be

in Farmers' Bulletin 1101. Sodium fluoride, dusted where the ants are seen will be found effective.

Cockroaches or waterbugs come where there is dampness, bits of food, trash of all kinds. Sprinkling borax, pyrethrum, or a dust of all sodium fluoride freely and persistently day after day wherever cockroaches appear seems to be a fairly successful method of extermination.

In spite of all precautions you will sometimes find weevils or worms in apparently sound cartons of cereal, in the flour bin, or on dried fruits or nuts. These pests come from minute eggs deposited probably before the package was sealed or the product entered your house. Destroy all badly infested food materials promptly, and any paper containers. Wash and scald your permanent containers before you use them again. However objectionable the idea of such insects getting into food, a chance meal worm or weevil in the cereal is cause for far less concern than a fly lighting on food, for the worm has spent its entire life in the package, while the fly is covered with filth picked up in its promiscuous visits.

Fleas, so far as possible, should be kept out of the house by screens. If they do get in, every effort should be made to drive them out or kill them. Use fly-traps, fly paper, insect powder, and poison. Above all, take steps to eliminate all possible breeding places for fleas near your home, and get your neighbors to co-operate.

Fleas and bedbugs feed on human blood. The former sometimes become a real nuisance, if a room becomes infested with them. You will have to take the carpet or rugs out-of-doors and clean them, and also spray with benzene or gasoline. The floor should be washed with soap suds, special attention being given to cracks between boards and along baseboards.

Carpet beetles are common and their grubs or larvae feed on foods similar to those preferred by the larvae of the clothes moths—woolens and furs. They are found more often under tacked-down carpets, and, once established, are difficult to get rid of. Use rugs and bare floors, which are less liable to infestation. If you find these pests, take up the carpets, clean them thoroughly out-of-doors, spray them with gasoline or benzene, and, if possible, air them and sun them. Treat the room itself as in the case of flea infestation. Fill all cracks with a crack filler before the carpet is put back.

An insect pest that does considerable damage in the attic to books, paper, and stored clothing, is the silverfish. These insects are attracted by starch in bindings and in garments.

Clothes moths are partial to woolens, furs and other clothing on which to lay their eggs so that the larvae when hatched will have suitable food. All cold weather garments when put away for the season should be thoroughly cleaned, beaten, brushed and sunned, and then shut up in tight boxes or chests with such repellents as naphthalene flakes or paradichlorobenzene. Other methods of protecting clothing and furnishings from moths are described in Farmers' Bulletin 1353.

The centipede, although unpleasant to look at, is beneficial because it preys on other household insects. If its presence is annoying it may be controlled by using insect powders sprinkled about. The foregoing are the chief insect disturbers of the household, and in each case the old adage holds good, "Eternal vigilance is the price of peace."



Keeping Food So Insects Cannot Attack It.

BUYING FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Appearance, condition, size, flavor and correct weight or measure are points to take into consideration when buying fresh fruits and vegetables, suggests the United States Department of Agriculture. Care in grading and preparing for shipment results in the best products and is usually indicated by careful packing in heavy crates that prevent bruising, by a spotless surface, uniform in size in each crate, and often by individual paper wrappings. The appearance of such external parts as tips and leaves is a help in judging freshness in the retail market.

Look for Decay. Look not only for the beginning of decay but also for maturity and fineness of flavor. A good pineapple, for example, has a fine aroma. Juice is heavier than pith or rind, and the lighter of two similar looking grapefruit or pampins should be rejected. A well-filled head of cabbage is heavy. Sometimes it pays to buy a single

apple or orange and taste it before purchasing a large quantity from the same lot. In marketing for several days at a time such foods as peaches, bananas, tomatoes or pears, that ripen at home, should be bought in different stages of maturity—some green and some ready for immediate use.

Individual Portions. Vegetables or fruits that are to be cooked or served in individual portions should be uniform in size. But if your apples, sweet potatoes, green peppers or tomatoes are to be cut up, mashed or put to many uses, ungraded products at a lower price will do just as well. Mere size is not economical in cases where a single grapefruit or apple is too large for one and not large enough for two persons. Estimate exactly how many you require to serve your family and buy that number. Have the number or amount you want weighed or measured after you have selected it. Otherwise you must learn for yourself how many servings a quart, a pound or a dozen will make, and buy accordingly.



Curb Market Scene—Buying Fruits and Vegetables. Photo by U. S. D. A.

HOUSEHOLD NOTES

Early rhubarb makes good pies.

Sunshine and fresh air are the best remedies for musty odors.

Good shortcake can be made from rhubarb before strawberries are ready.

Nutritionists are not interested so much in saving poor digestions as in building strong ones.—Flora Rose.

A bread box that opens from the front rather than the top won't have to be emptied to get the bottom loaf.

To remove the odor of onions from cooking utensils, wash them in cold water immediately after they are used, and follow this with hot soap suds.

The miles she walks in her work, not to her work, are what make the housewife weary. Sometimes rearranging equipment will cut the distances.

### Kill-Moths

New Safe

A FEW dozen hungry moths can do more damage in a few days than any other pest. Don't leave fine clothing exposed, can easily be protected.

Spray Ni-Late thoroughly in cedar chests and clothes closets. It will kill all moths and their eggs.

Ni-Late will not harm the finest and most expensive clothing. When sprayed, positively will not stain.

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